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**TO:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Examiner: Brian J. Sines  
Art Unit: 1743

**FROM:** Barry M. Shuman/Wei-Ning Yang

**TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER:** 9

**DATE:** September 2, 2005**TIME:**

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**MESSAGE:**

**RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/915,865; Attorney Ref: 2009-174 (81841.0155)**  
I hereby certify that the following documents:

- Amendment Transmittal Letter/Amendment

are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

September 2, 2005  
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**TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300 – Art Unit 1743

**CLIENT NUMBER:** 81841.0155

**ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER:** 6085

**CONFIRMATION NUMBER:** 703-305-0401 (please return fax to Diane Zynn)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard R. Sharpe, Jr. et al.

Serial No: 09/915,865

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OBJECT-  
ORIENTED REAL-TIME MECHANICAL CONTROL OF  
AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY INSTRUMENTS

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Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence<br>is being transmitted via facsimile to<br>(571)273-8300:<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on |  |
| September 2, 2005   |  |
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| Diane Zym   |  |
| Name  |  |
| Signature   |  |
| Date 09/02/05   |  |

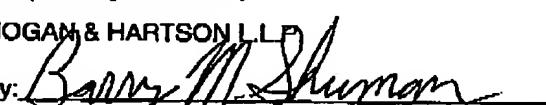
|  | (Col. 1)<br>CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT |   | (Col. 2)<br>HIGHEST NUMBER<br>PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (Col. 3)<br>PRESENT<br>EXTRA* | LG/SM<br>\$ ENTITY FEE |                      | ADD'L<br>FEE DUE                                     |
|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| TOTAL CLAIMS FEE   | 7   | - | 26  | ''                            | 0                      | LG=\$50<br>SM=\$25   | \$ 0   |
| INDEPENDENT<br>CLAIMS FEE  | 1   | - | 4   | ---                           | 0                      | LG=\$200<br>SM=\$100 | \$ 0   |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS                          |   |   |   |                               |                        |                      | LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$360<br>SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$180 |
| ADDITIONAL SIZE FEE (IF ANY) (TOTAL PAGES OF SPEC AND DRAWINGS TOGETHER) |   |   |   |                               |                        |                      | \$250 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 50<br>SHEETS               |
| Independent Claims: 7  |   |   |   |                               |                        |                      | TOTAL \$ 0   |

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.  
\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.  
\*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- Please charge the fee of \$ for the additional claim fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- Please charge the fee of \$ for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON LLP

By: 

Wei-Ning Yang (Contact Person)

Registration No. 38,690

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Registration No. 50,220

Date: September 2, 2005

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